

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

The Alliance was founded in December 1997. Our goals were:

“First, to raise awareness of problem gambling and direct compulsive gamblers and their families to free treatment. Second, to develop and implement prevention and education programs for all ages. Third, to ensure access and availability of quality assistance and treatment.”

Twenty-five years later, we should ask ourselves individually and collectively to what extent we have achieved our mission and goals? However, answers to this question are both illusive and subjective.

We have many of the elements recognized nationally:

- A helpline and self-exclusion systems
- Prevention and education materials
- A website and treatment services



Yet, having a welcoming front porch with chairs and a ceiling fan looks good, but has little utility if not used.

Our numbers in this year's and past annual reports show a decline in the number of callers to our helpline:

- Only a few referrals to the Gaming Commission's Disassociated Persons List and the Lottery's Self-Exclusion Program.
- Also, there are only a small number of referrals to both free and other compulsive gambling counselors.
- Counseling services in 2022 dropped to less than 60 clients served statewide.

In contrast, Wisconsin's report of its 24th year reported 15,192 helpline calls and 10,889 web hits in 2022.

Despite significant components that could lead to success in Missouri, a 2021 survey published in 2022 by Marotta, J. & Yamagata ranks Missouri 37th out of 42 states in per capita funding for problem gambling. The same report states Missouri ranked 10th out of 42 States in gambling revenue and 11th in consumer gambling spending. The gap between revenue and services is an obvious answer to our limited success, but an incomplete answer.

Compulsive gambler services and programming have been doomed from 1998 by meager and insufficient funding for statewide treatment programs and services. This is partly due to assumptions about the prevalence of problem gambling and the associated devastating consequences. Sports betting legislation proposed in 2022 indicated authors had an increased understanding of the consequences of legalized gambling. Although nothing passed both houses, revenue language for the first time evolved from “may” to “shall” for the problem gambler fund. In Senate Bill 30, the proposed amount allocated ranged from \$500,000 to \$1 million and an offered amendment of \$10 million in funding.

The Port KC Problem Gambling Fund Advisory Committee's 2022 Prevalence Study provided legislators valuable and consequential latest information:

- 66% of Missouri's adults gambled in the past year. (2 in 3 out of every 6,780,000 adults)
- Using standard diagnostic criteria, 4% of Missouri's citizens self-reported meeting the criteria for problem gambling disorder. (1 in 25 out of every 217,000 citizens)
- 21% of Missouri's citizens self-reported meeting the criteria warning these gamblers are at risk for progressing to gambling disorder. (1 in 5 out of every 142,380,000 citizens)

Missouri has been an exemplary leader and innovator in the last 25 years.

Based on these findings, I propose that in 2023, as Alliance members, we need to be one voice regarding the budgetary and necessary legislation required for Missouri. We need to discuss what can be done to move from 37th level per capita funding for problem gambling to the same level as our revenue—11th. Our actions are the difference between responsible gaming and gaming indifferent to the consequences. I look forward to a healthy and honest discussion among organizational and individual members.

Keith Spare, MS, M.Div., LPC

Chair, Missouri Alliance to Curb Problem Gambling

Chair, Kansas City Port Authority Problem Gambling Fund Advisory Committee

Created in 1997, the Missouri Alliance to Curb Problem Gambling was the nation's first partnership of its kind. This unique partnership of public, private and nonprofit organizations recognizes the need to address the social problems and costs created when individuals have problems handling the product or service that the state and gaming industry provide.

Alliance Member-Funded Service Highlights

Problem Gambling Helpline: 1-888-BETSOFF (1-888-238-7633) -

1,746 calls in 2022 vs 1,593 calls in 2021

Life Crisis Services operates a 24-hour helpline service for callers seeking help for a gambling problem. When contacted, Life Crisis Services provides counseling, assessment and referrals to callers while attempting to collect various socio-economic and gambling behavior information. A breakdown of this information can be found on the following pages.

Free Compulsive Gambling Treatment Services -

68 referrals through helpline in 2022 vs 45 referrals through helpline in 2021

By appropriating money from the Compulsive Gambler's Fund, the Department of Mental Health is able to contract with certified outpatient treatment programs to provide treatment services, including individual and group counseling, family therapy, financial planning, remediation, and referrals for legal assistance.

Disassociated Persons (DAP) List -

141 referrals through helpline in 2022 vs 38 referrals through helpline in 2021

The first of its kind when implemented in 1996, the Missouri Gaming Commission's DAP List allows problem and compulsive gamblers to enter into a five-year ban from all Missouri riverboat locations and direct marketing lists while invalidating their player's club account and denying check-cashing privileges. Members have a one-time opportunity to take themselves off the DAP List after five years have passed.

Lottery Self-Exclusion Program (SEP) -

3 referrals through helpline in 2022 vs 12 referrals through helpline in 2021

The Missouri Lottery's SEP is a responsible gaming resource for players who classify themselves as problem or compulsive gamblers that aims to reduce the incentive to play Lottery games. By submitting an application, individuals voluntarily enter into a lifetime ban from claiming Lottery prizes of more than \$600, accessing their loyalty club account, and receiving email and text message communications.

Helpline and Referral Information

Calendar Year	Calls Placed to Helpline	Free Treatment	Disassociated Persons (DAP)	Self-Exclusion Program (SEP)
1998	871	54	356	N/A
1999	1,034	113	596	N/A
2000	1,738	186	1,093	N/A
2001	2,846	335	1,403	N/A
2002	2,889	373	1,290	N/A
2003	3,339	344	1,367	N/A
2004	3,527	377	1,506	N/A
2005	2,593	360	1,696	N/A
2006	1,834	370	1,553	N/A
2007	1,682	358	1,412	N/A
2008	1,915	332	1,279	N/A
2009	2,263	343	896	N/A
2010	2,740	368	797	N/A
2011	2,093	231	790	N/A
2012	2,454	168	1,023	N/A
2013	2,057	154	961	N/A
2014	2,073	537	778	N/A
2015	1,954	419	663	N/A
2016	1,630	375	657	38
2017	1,497	305	758	27
2018	1,492	217	363	37
2019	2,452	225	762	37
2020	1,817	51	115	5
2021	1,593	45	38	12
2022	1,746	68	141	3

2022




In 2022, we answered **1,746** gambling calls.



The ratio of number of male callers to number of female callers is almost 2/1.

274 callers were assessed for suicidality, among which 93% were NOT at risk for suicide

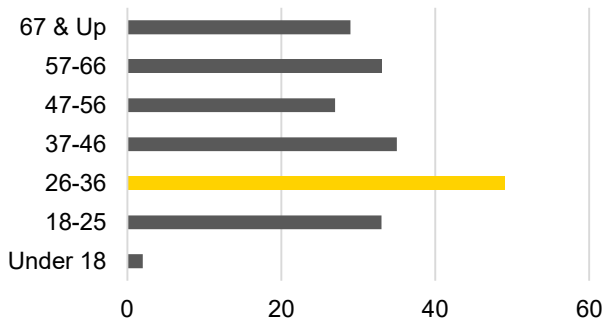
For callers at risk:

Low Risk		15 callers
Med. Risk		2 callers
High Risk		3 callers
Imm. High Risk		0 callers

96 callers reported their Race, the majority (**68%**) callers are Caucasians; 25% - Black/African Americans; 4% - Hispanic/Latino; 2% - Asians; and 1% - Native American or American Indian.

103 callers reported their Marital Status, 56% are Married; 32% - Single; 7% - Divorced; 3% - Widowed; and 2% - Separated.

208 callers reported their Age (persons).



2021



In 2021, we answered **1,593** gambling calls.



The ratio of number of male callers to number of female callers is 3:2

149 callers were assessed for suicidality, among which 93% were NOT at risk for suicide.

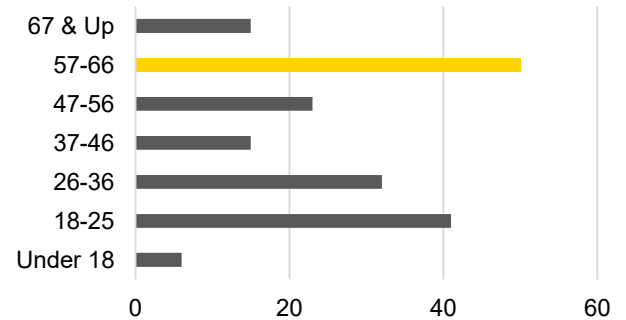
For callers at risk:

Low Risk		7 callers
Med. Risk		3 callers
High Risk		0 callers
Imm. High Risk		0 callers

110 callers reported their Race, the majority (**71%**) callers are Caucasians; 23% - Black/African Americans; 4% - Asians; and 3% - Hispanic/Latino. No callers reported their race as "other."

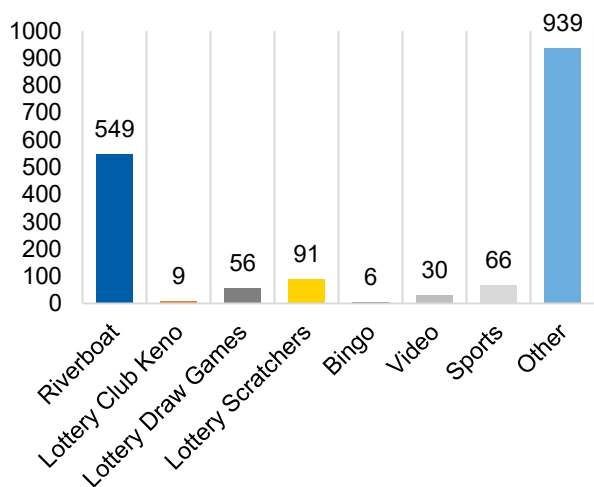
124 callers reported their Marital Status, 41% are Married; 37% - Single; 19% - Divorced; 2% - Widowed; and 1% - Separated.

182 callers reported their Age (persons).

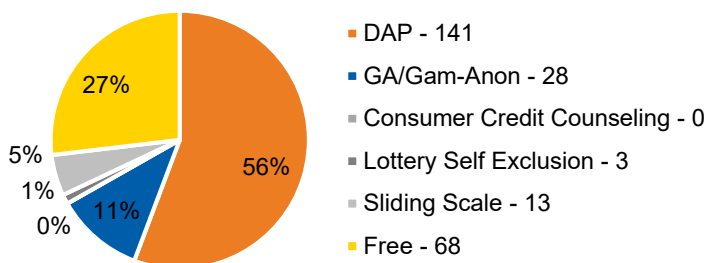


2022

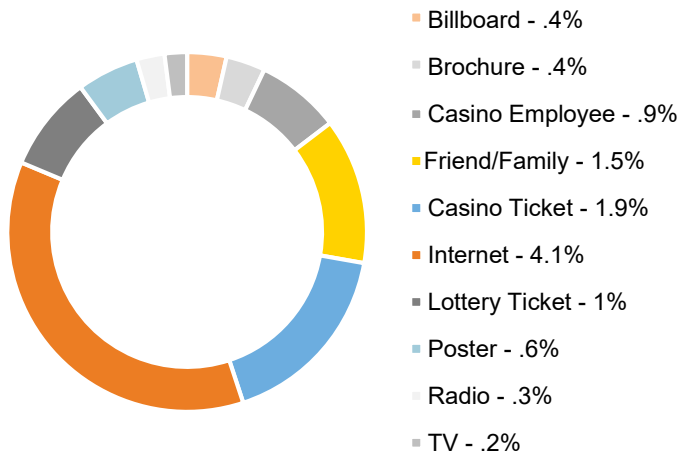
Type of Gambling Problem (persons)



Referrals Given



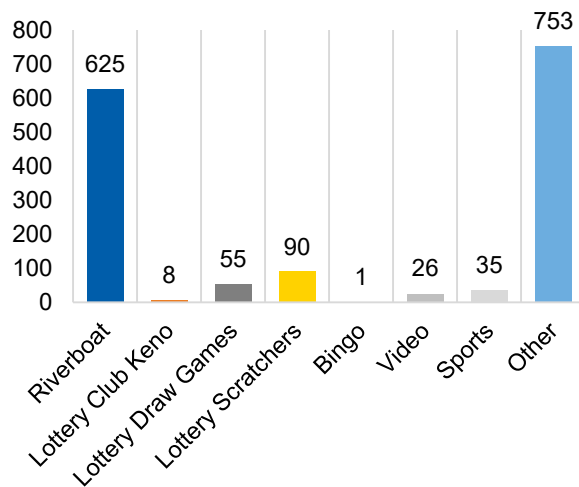
How did caller hear about the line?



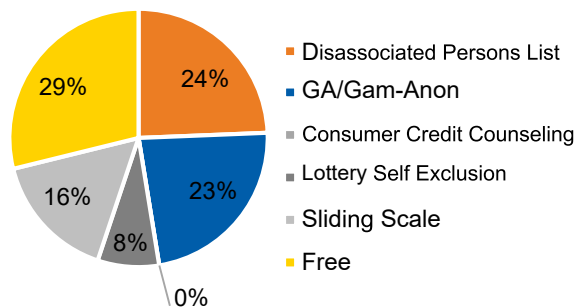
Callers were mostly located in **St. Louis County, Jackson County MO, St. Louis City, and St. Charles.**

2021

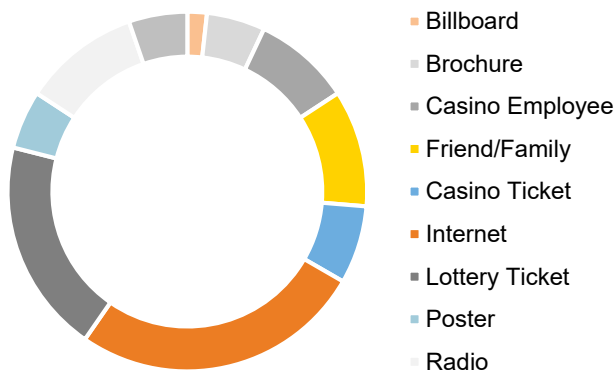
Type of Gambling Problem (persons)



Types of referrals given to callers in 2021



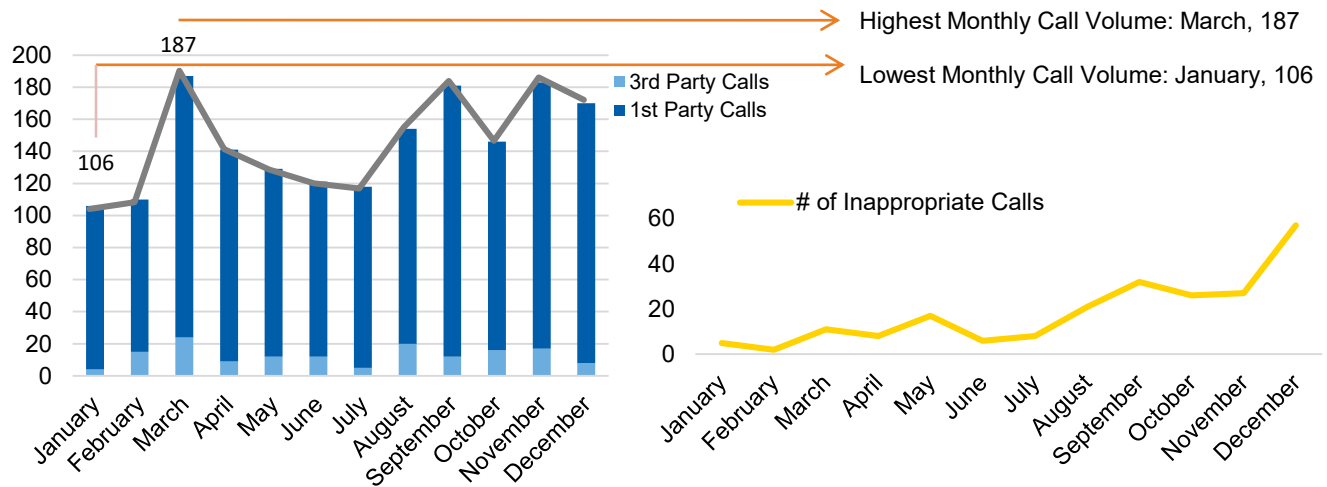
How did caller hear about the line?



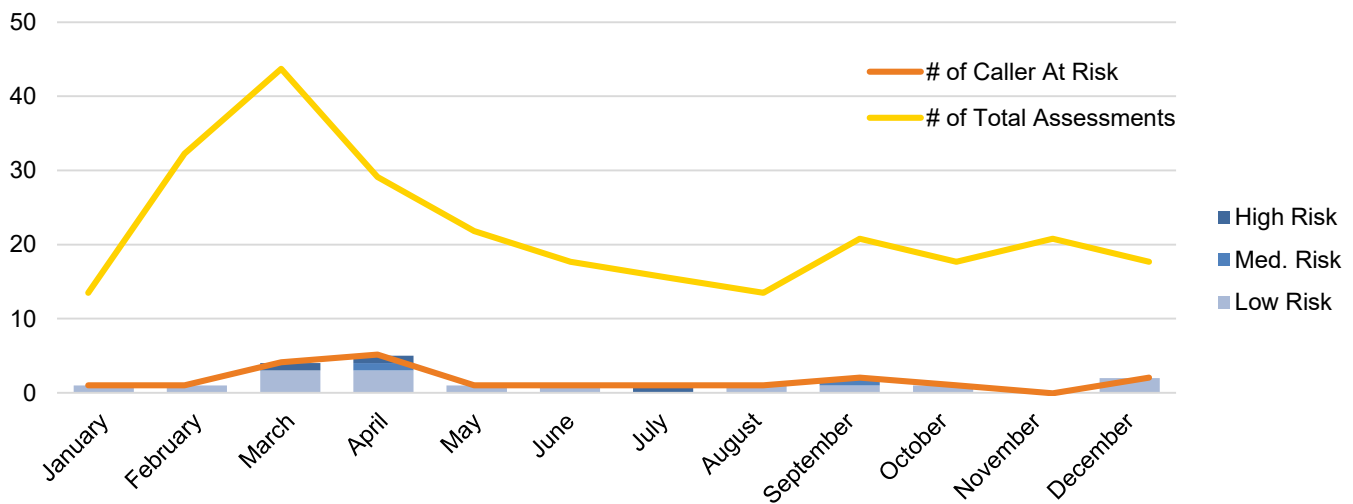
In 2021, callers were mostly located in **St. Louis County, Jackson County MO, St. Louis City, and St. Charles County.**

Bets Off Annual Gambling Report

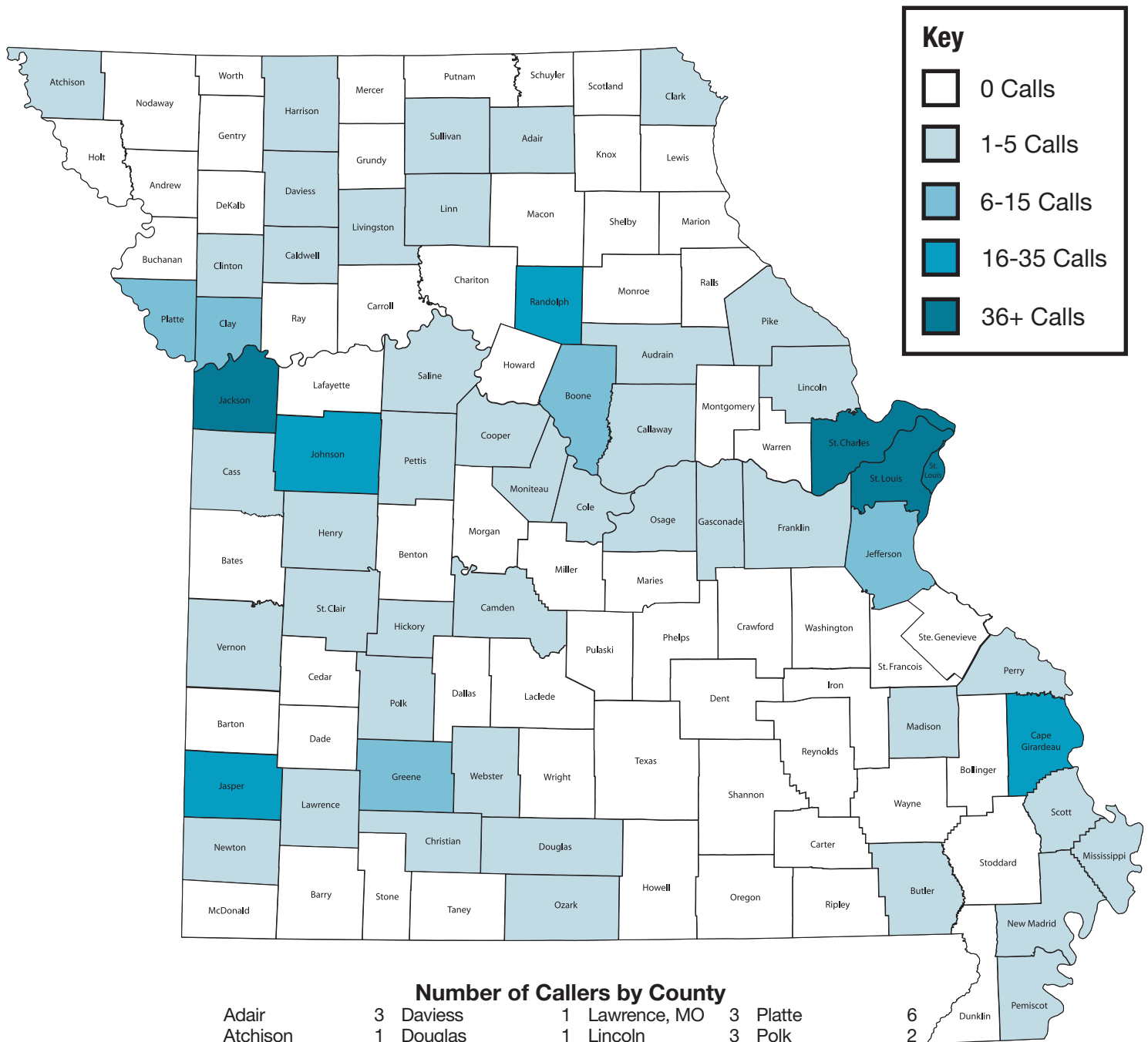
Trend of Call Volume



Risk for Suicide

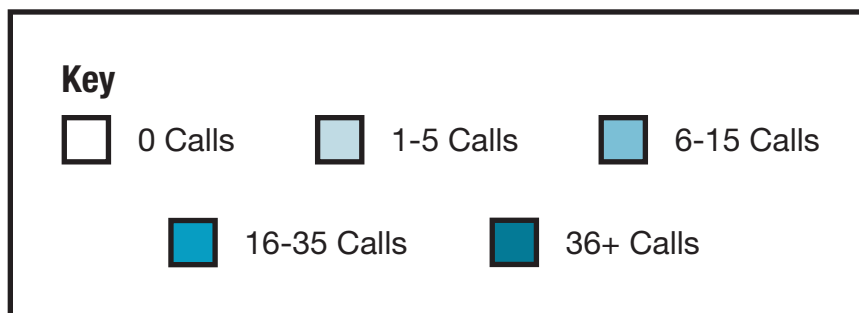
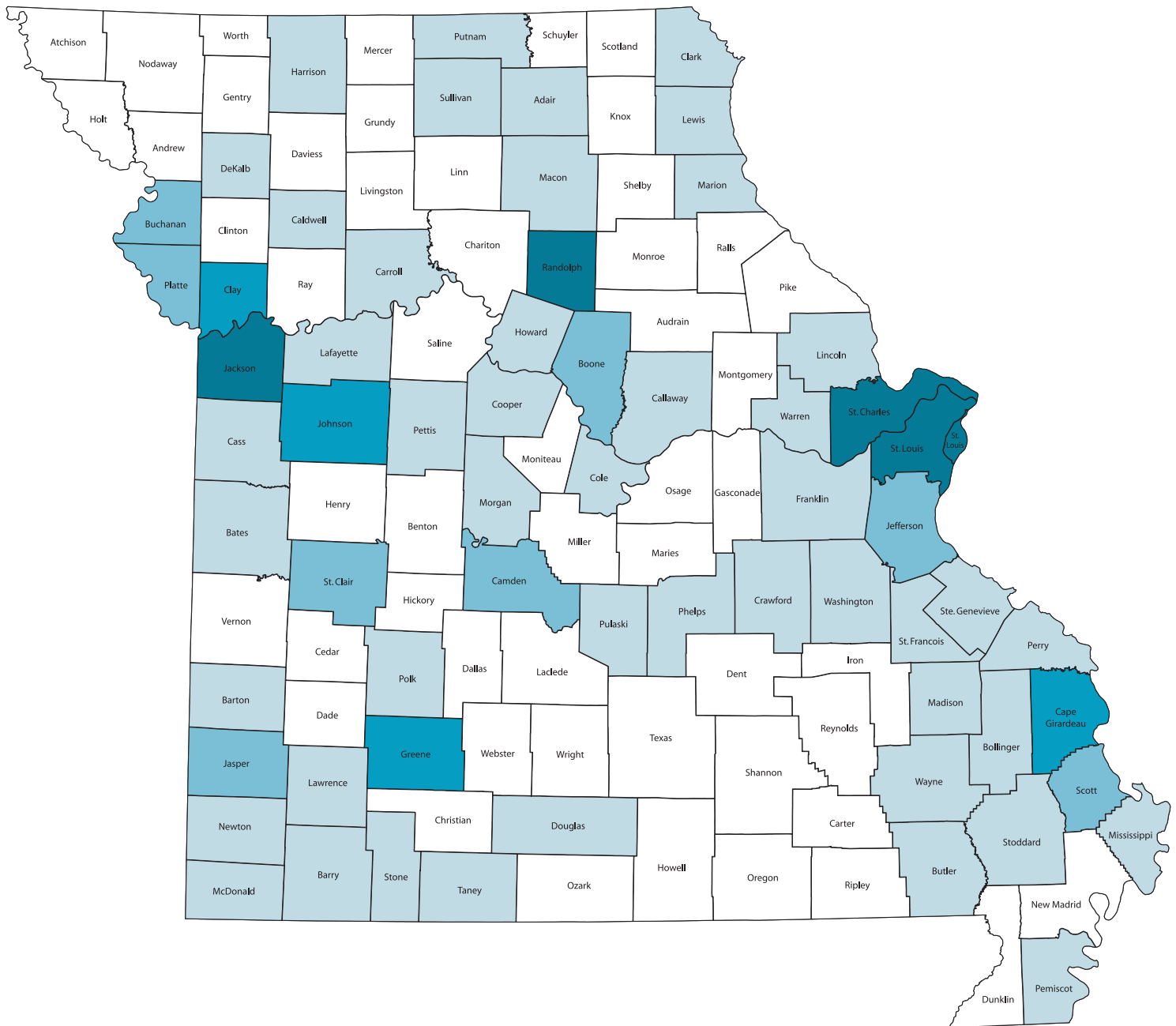


2022 Helpline Callers By County



Summary: In 2022, there was a moderate decline in the number of callers in 32 counties statewide. Six counties saw their number of calls decrease by at least half, while no calls were reported in 26 counties. In contrast, there was a slight increase in the number of callers in 19 counties statewide. The majority of these counties went from 0 calls to the 1-5 call range.

2021 Helpline Callers By County



DBH
Division of Behavioral Health



This year's Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse will be in person and take place June 21-23, 2023 in Kansas City, MO. Conference registration is currently open and available on the MCPGSA website.

A presentation of the 2022 Missouri Prevalence Study will take place at this year's conference. Dr. Devin Mills, Dr. Wiley Harwell, and Keith Spare will be sharing the full results of this study. More details on conference registration, schedule, and keynote speakers can be found at themidwestconference.org.



2023 CALENDAR

June 21-23

20th Annual Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse, Kansas City, MO, themidwestconference.org

July 27-28

National Conference on Gambling Addiction & Responsible Gambling, Washington, D.C. ncpgambling.org

August

Missouri's Responsible Gaming Education Month

1-888-BETSOFF

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MACPG

Missouri Alliance to Curb Problem Gambling

The Missouri Alliance to Curb Problem Gambling's mission is to heighten public awareness for the dangers of problem gambling; develop prevention and education programs for gamblers of all ages; and direct problem gamblers and their families to the 1-888-BETSOFF helpline and treatment.